

Message Text

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14

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ADP-00 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 IO-13 RSR-01 /155 W

----- 030001

R 230920Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7138

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USINT ALGIERS

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 1981

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS, BM

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

REF: A. STATE 163270 B. SAIGON 14587

1. GVN CONGEN SAID AUG 22, IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUERY, THAT SPECIAL DELEGATION HAD PLANNED VISIT RANGOON BUT NOT DOING SO BECAUSE NO HOTEL ROOMS AVAILABLE ON ACCOUNT OF GEM EMPORIUM (PRIOR DEPARTURE OF CHAIRMAN NE WIN FOR SWITZERLAND, PROBABLY EN ROUTE ALGIERS, MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN A FACTOR).

2. WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE HIMSELF HAD MADE DEMARCHE TO GUB, CONGEN SAID THAT HE HAD RECENTLY INFORMALLY APPROACHED U THAUNG HTIKE, DIRECTOR, POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, MFA, WHO SAID GUB HAD HAD NO RPT NO CONTACT WITH PRG. BASED ON THIS AND OTHER BRIEF COMMENTS, CONGEN SAID GUB'S ATTITUDE "APPARENTLY QUITE FAVORABLE." CONGEN NOTED TO EMBOFF THAT GUB FACED WITH SEVERAL INSURGENCIES OF ITS OWN AND WOULD NOT WISH SET PRECEDENT OF CONDONING INSURGENCY IN NEARBY COUNTRY.

3. EMBOFFS SAID THIS WAS ENCOURAGING NEWS BUT NOTED THAT BASED ON OUR UNDERSTANDING OF GUB'S PERFORMANCE AT GEORGETOWN IT WAS POSSIBLE GUB WOULD REMAIN SILENT RATHER THAN EXPRESS VIEWS ON FLOOR
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IN OPPOSITION TO PRG. CONGEN (WHO FAIRLY NEW HERE) WAS MORE OPT-

IMISTIC AND THOUGH GUB VIEWS MIGHT CARRY SOME WEIGHT IN CORRIDORS.

4. IN RESPONSE EMBOFF'S QUERY WHETHER WE MIGHT HELP WITH GUB IN ANY WAY, CONGEN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION BUT SAID THAT HE THOUGHT IT BEST TO LEAVE THINGS AS THEY ARE UNLESS THERE WERE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS RENDERING OUR INVOLVEMENT DESIRABLE. HE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT NO OBJECTION TO REGISTERING OUR VIEWS IF SUBJECT AROSE INFORMALLY WITH GUB OFFICIALS.

5. COMMENT: BELIEVE WE SHOULD DEFER TO GVN CONGEN'S JUDGMENT AS FAR AS FORMAL EMBASSY DEMARCH CONCERNED. WE WILL NEVERTHELESS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ANY OPPORTUNITIES WHICH ARISE TO MAKE POINTS IN REFTELS.

MARTIN

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30 JUN 2005

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